

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-03 ADP-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 RSR-01

RSC-01 /030 W

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R 300543Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6368

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 TOKYO 11112

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, JA

SUBJ: CODEL WOLFF VISIT TO JAPAN

REF: A. STATE 154154

B. TOKYO 3446

C. STATE 063103

SUMMARY: CODEL WOLFF VISITED TOKYO AUGUST 26-28. THE CODEL'S CHIEF CONCERNS IN JAPAN WERE NEED FOR CONTROLS ON JAPANESE EXPORTS OF ACETIC ANHYDRIDE (A CHEMICAL ESSENTIAL FOR PRODUCTION OF HEROIN) AND POSSIBILITY OF JAPAN'S BECOMING TRANSSHIPMENT POINT FOR HEROIN PRODUCED IN SE ASIA. OTHER INTERESTS INCLUDED DRUG SITUATION IN OKINAWA; EFFECTIVENESS OF U.S. MILITARY SEARCHES OF IN AND OUTBOUND MILITARY AIRCRAFT PASSENGERS AND BAGGAGE; JAPANESE HANDLING OF DRUG OFFENDERS;; DEGREE OF COOPERATION AND COORDINATION AMONG DEAN U.S. MILITARY AND JAPANESE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN COMBATTING DRUG TRAFFIC; AND LEVEL OF JAPAN'S CONCERN OVER INTERNATIONAL DRUG

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TRAFFICKING PROBLEM.

1. ITINERARY. CODEL WOLFF, ACCOMPANIED BY REP. CHARLES B. RANGEL AND HFAC STAFF CONSULTANT DR. JOHN BRADY, ARRIVED IN TOKYO FROM SEOUL LATE AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 26. SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 27 INCLUDED (1) MORNING MEETING WITH DCM AND OTHER EMBASSY OFFICERS FOR IN DEPTH DISCUSSION OF NEED FOR CONTROLS AND/OR MONITORING OF JAPANESE EXPORTS OF ACETIC ANHYDRIDE TO SEA; (2) MIDMORNING BRIEFING OF CODEL BY EMBASSY COUNTRY TEAM NARCOTICS COMMITTEE COVERING DRUG SITUATION IN JAPAN, EMBASSY DRUG ABUSE PROGRAMS FOR OFFICIAL AND NON-OFFICIAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND OTHER EMBASSY EFFORTS IN DRUG CONTROL FIELD; (3) LUNCHEON WITH AMBASSADOR, DCM AND OTHER EMBASSY OFFICERS AT WHICH ACETIC ANHYDRIDE AND OTHER DRUG MATTERS WERE DISCUSSED; AT LUNCHEON, US-JAPAN RELATIONS AND JAPANESE POLITICAL MILIEU ALSO DISCUSSED EXTENSIVELY; AND (4) AFTERNOON CALLS BY CODEL, ACCOMPANIED BY EMBASSY OFFICERS AND DEA SAIC, ON HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS OF JAPANESE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE, MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TO CONVEY CONCERN OF CONGRESS OVER NEED FOR ACETIC ANHYDRIDE EXPORT CONTROLS AND CLOSE US-JAPAN COOPERATION IN COMBATTING INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFIC. CODEL DEPARTED JAPAN FOR US AUGUST 28.

2. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS AND JAPANESE MHW, MITI AND MOFA OFFICIALS, CODEL STRESSED CONGRESS' CONCERN OVER NEED TO CONTROL JAPAN'S EXPORTS OF AA AND SEA COUNTRIES AS MEANS OF DISRUPTING ILLICIT PRODUCTION OF HEROIN. DCM GAVE CODEL RESUME OF EMBASSY'S APPROACHES TO GOJ ON AA CONTROL QUESTION AND GOJ'S RESPONSES (DESCRIBED REF. B & C), AND EXPRESSED VIEW THAT OUR EFFORTS TO PERSUADE GOJ TO ESTABLISH CONTROLS WOULD BE ENHANCED WERE US TO IMPOSE SIMILAR CONTROLS ON ITS OWN AA EXPORTS. CODEL WOLFF REPLIED HE UNDERSTOOD DIFFICULTY LACK OF US CONTROLS POSES FOR EMBASSY IN DEALING WITH JAPANESE ON THIS SUBJECT, ADDING THAT HE AND COLLEAGUES ON INTER-NATIONAL NARCOTICS SUBCOMMITTEE INTEND TO PUSH HARD FOR EARLY ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH SUCH CONTROLS WHEN CONGRESS RECONVENES NEXT MONTH. WOLFF CONTENTED, NEVERTHELESS, THAT EMBASSY SHOULD PRESS JAPAN TO ADOPT CONTROL MEASURES EVEN THOUGH US HAD NO RPT NO CONTROLS. IN MEETING WITH DCM AND AT AMB'S LUNCHEON HE RECOMMENDED THAT EMBASSY

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MAKE FURTHER REPRESENTATIONS TO GOJ AT HIGH LEVELS TO UNDERSCORE USG CONCERN.

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-03 ADP-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 RSR-01

RSC-01 /030 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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3. AT MEETING WITH CHIEF, MITI CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES DIVISION, TAKAHASHI, WOLFF REITERATED IMPORTANCE OF CONTROLLING AA EXPORTS AS WEAPON IN STOPPING NARCOTIC TRAFFICKING. HE STATED HOWEVER QUOTE WE WOULD NEVER ASK JAPAN TO DO ANYTHING THAT WE DID NOT OURSELVES DO. WE WILL RETURN HOME AND TRY TO FASHION METHODS OF TRACING, OR MONITORING EXPORT OF ACETIC ANHYDRIDE FROM US END QUOTE. HE AND RANGEL STATED THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE MUST BE DONE TO PLACE BARRIERS IN WAY OF THOSE WHO SOUGHT TO PRODUCE HEROIN AND THAT USG WOULD WANT TO COOPERATE WITH OTHERS, ESPECIALLY JAPAN, IN FINDING MEANS FOR SO DOING. TAKAHASHI BRIEFED CODEL ON ACETIC ANHYDRIDE SITUATION (1972 FIGURES) SAYING THAT FOUR LARGE, RESPECTABLE COMPANIES (DAICEL, CHISSO, TEIJIN AND NIHON SEGOSHI KAZAKU) PRODUCED ALL ACETIC ANHYDRIDE MADE IN JAPAN, USING ALMOST NINETY PERCENT IN OWN MANUFACTURING OF SUCH PRODUCTS AS ASPIRIN AND AMINO ACIDS. EIGHT AND ONE HALF PERCENT IS SOLD TO OTHER JAPANESE COMPANIES FOR USE IN JAPAN AND ABOUT ONE AND ONE HALF PERCENT IS EXPORTED. IN 1972 OF TOTAL 103,721 TONS PRODUCED, ONLY ABOUT 159 TONS WERE EXPORTED: 45 TO TAIWAN, 107 TO SOUTH
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KOREA, 1.2 TO HONG KONG, AND 6 TO NEW ZEALAND. ALL AA SHIPPED TO TAIWAN IS USED BY TAIWAN WATANABE, SUBSIDIARY OF LEADING JAPANESE PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY, WHICH WOULD NOT BE INVOLVED IN HEROIN PRODUCTION. TAKAHASHI CONCLUDED THAT IF JAPANESE AA FOUND WAY INTO HEROIN PRODUCTION IT WAS AFTER BEING SOLD THROUGH LEGAL CHANNELS TO THIRD COUNTRIES. WOLFF EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH TAKAHASHI'S BELIEF THAT LARGE JAPANESE COMPANIES ARE NOT RPT NOT INVOLVED IN DRUG TRAFFIC BUT THAT DIVERSION OF AA MUST BE TAKING PLACE SINCE HEROIN IS BEING PRODUCED IN SEA. TAKAHASHI RESPONDED THAT MANUFACTURERS SELL BULK QUANTITIES TO EXPORT FIRMS, THEREAFTER CONTROL IS LOST. WOLFF SUGGESTED MITI QUOTE INFORM US OF ANY INORDINATELY LARGE PURCHASES SO THAT WE CAN CHECK ON THEM END QUOTE. RANGEL CONCLUDED CODEL REMARKS BY APOLOGIZING QUOTE FOR TROUBLE AMERICANS IN OKINAWA ARE CAUSING FOR JAPAN END QUOTE AND EXPRESSING HOPE THAT QUOTE JAPAN NEVER EXPERIENCES TRAGEDY THAT DRUG ABUSE HAS CAUSED UNITED STATES UNQUOTE. TAKAHASHI REPLIED THAT QUOTE JAPAN AS MEMBER OF FAMILY OF NATIONS WISHED TO HELP IN FIGHT AGAINST INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING AND THEREFORE IS MOST WILLING TO FURNISH DATA ON AA END QUOTE.

4. MEETING WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL PHARMACEUTICAL BUREAU AND NARCOTICS DIVISION OF MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE WAS ALSO SMOOTH AND SUPPORTED EMBASSY'S EARLIER PRESENTATION. DIRECTOR GENERAL MATSUSHITA AND NARCOTIC DIV HEAD DR. MOTOHASHI CONTENDED THAT AA WAS NOT EXPORTED TO SEA FROM JAPAN AND HYPOTHESIZED THAT THIRD COUNTRIES WERE PERHPAS INVOLVED. AT CLOSE OF MEETING, MATSUSHITA PROMISED CONTINUED COOPERATION WITH USG, AND SAID THAT GOJ WOULD BE HAPPY TO COOPERATE IN ANY CONCERTED INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO MONITOR AA.

5. FINAL MEETING, CALL ON FONOFF DIRECTOR GENERAL UN BUREAU SUZUKI (WITHOUT WOLFF), WAS COURTESY CALL. RANGEL THANKED SUZUKI FOR GOJ COOPERATION ON DRUG MATTERS, FOR CONTRIBUTION TO UNFDAC, AND EXPRESSED HOPE GOJ WOULD BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN US SPONSORED CONFERENCE ON DRUGS IN PARIS OCT 23-26.

COMMENT: DESPITE HARD LINE WOLFF TOOK AT INITIAL MEETING WITH DCM AND EMBOFFS IN ASSERTING THAT EMBASSY SHOULD PRESS GOJ TO ADOPT CONTROLS ON EXPORT OF ACETIC ANHYDRIDE WHICH USG
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DOES NOT RPT NOT HAVE, WOLFF'S ATTITUDE ON THIS SEEMS TO HAVE MODIFIED CONSIDERABLY AFTER GOJ OFFICIALS UNIFORMLY CORROBORATED EMBASSY ASSESSMENT. WITH CLEARER PICTURE OF OVERALL SITUATION HERE WE BELIEVE THAT CODEL SHOULD BE LESS CRITICAL OF EMBASSY EFFORTS AND JAPANESE ROLE IN ACETIC ANHYDRIDE TRADE THAN IN HIS JANUARY 1973 REPORT TO HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE. WHEN DEPARTING, CODEL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH EMBASSY

EFFORTS. WOLFF SAID HE WOULD RECOMMEND ADDITIONAL HELP FOR
DEA TOKYO.
INGERSOLL

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